



Opposites Attract

The fact that opposites attract is demonstrated by my grandparents union. Charles Forgey and Graciela Del Castillo not only came from cultures poles apart their personalities were diametrically opposed in many ways. Grandma Forgey enjoyed people. She was drawn to pursuits which centered around entertaining. In Nicaragua her primary interest was in performing. She sang and danced, often accompanied by her brother Samuel on guitar. As I've heard she was a talented performer. She performed for Nicaragua's President. She made a number of impressive contacts in Nicaragua. The term networking would have been unknown to her, but she was very adept at it anyway. Her contacts and many friends would prove helpful to her throughout her life. After marrying and then migrating to California she discovered cooking was a great way to attract a crowd. She enjoyed entertaining and feeding friends in her kitchen. On the other hand my grandfather was more attracted to solitary pursuits. He enjoyed such pastimes as reading, fishing, hunting, gardening and landscape painting. Not a complete recluse he did enjoy socializing to a degree. He had run-ins with authority in his early years. He got into trouble with his father for disobedience on several occasions. Sometimes he would take a family horse to town when he should have been working on the family farm. He was disciplined in the US Marines for being insubordinate to a non commissioned officer, and another time disciplined for being slow to obey orders.

Grandma Forgey was born to Nicasio Del Castillo and Elena Garcia in Nicaragua on September 10, 1893. She did not spend very much time with her mother owing to the fact her mother contracted smallpox. She was sent to live with some Aunts for an extended time. Her aunts owned a talking Parrot. They sold cigars and the parrot was a poor salesman, parroting the phrase we have "no cigars". Her lifestyle would have been categorized as middle class by Nicaraguan standards. Her family was not Native Indian which gave the family a higher status in society. Her peers were members of a government elite. The Del Castillo family lived in Granada, Nicaragua which was a center for conservative politics. Her family supported the ruling elite.

Life was challenging in Nicaragua with numerous earthquakes, and many active volcanoes (Momotombo was a volcano which my grandmother remembered. It erupted in 1905). During an earthquake my grandmother grabbed a picture off the wall she thought was picture of the Virgin Mary, and ran out the door. When she got outside she discovered it was not the Virgin Mary, it was Simon Bolivar.



Grandfather Charles Lynn Forgey was born to William Wray Forgey and Isis Browning on December 17, 1898 in Brownstown, Jackson County, Indiana. Grandpa Forgey was born and raised in a completely different climate than the always warm to hot Nicaragua. Instead of contending with earthquakes and volcanoes there was the sometimes deadly cold; and violent storms which could spawn tornadoes. It was a more subdued, austere sort of society as opposed to the lively, celebratory Hispanic society my grandmother came from. His early years

were divided between school, working on the family farm and church. He didn't seem to share his Mother Isis's enthusiasm for the Methodist Episcopal Church. As a matter of fact he repudiated all religion in adulthood (he did read the entire bible from cover to cover). Like his wife he too suffered a separation from his Mother, Isis, due to the fact that she contracted TB. She died when he was 9 years old. This early loss combined with economic setbacks all conspired to create a sometimes cynical personality. For instance, his wife enjoyed the holidays, whereas; he felt like they were too commercial and could be lived without.

It would seem that these two people living poles apart would never come into contact. My great-grandfather William Forgey, widowed a number of years, decided to remarry. According to a story my grandfather told he didn't get along with his stepmother. According to his own account he threw some coal at her during an argument. This likely was the catalyst for his decision enlist in the US Marines on June 14, 1916 (he was not 18 yet, so he lied about his age). He was mustered in September 1916 at Mare Island in Alameda, California, to the 35th Company; before being assigned to the American Legation in Nicaragua. The US had economic and political interests in Nicaragua, and the US Military occupied Nicaragua in defense of these interests. I believe before he set out for Nicaragua his ship was seen off by Mary Pickford? One of the high points of my Grandfather's life was shaking Mary Pickford's hand. This silent film star was often called "America's Sweetheart."

My Grandfather Forgey's ship, the USS Nero, left Northern California on January 11, 1917 and arrived in Nicaragua on January 25, 1917. Not much is known regarding the details of his service. We do know, from muster lists, that he helped setup the shooting range for target practice. He qualified as a Navy 35. He was placed on a week's restriction for being insubordinate to a non commissioned officer. Going through the muster lists I noticed someone was in charge of entertainment for the troops. Don't know whether my grandmother and her brother provided an evening of entertainment at some point? Could that have been the way my Grandfather met my Grandmother?

Charles Forgey and Graciela Del Castillo married on January 10, 1919 in Managua Nicaragua. According to their daughter Edna they were married by a Roman Catholic Bishop. Some of those present at the marriage included fellow Marines Mark R.

Lemar and Justinian S. Danaway (Nicasio wrote a poem for the occasion). Nearly exactly one year later their first child was born. Isis Lucrecia Forgey was born in Managua on January 26, 1920. Sadly, Isis passed away a few months later. She died of an acute gastrointestinal infection at half past 2 in the morning on May 13, 1920. She did receive medical care; but, unfortunately she could not be saved. A year later another daughter was born, my mother Edna Fay Forgey. She was

born on April 23, 1921 in Granada, Nicaragua. She was baptized at Nuestra Mercedes Church. My mother's life nearly ended tragically when she was a toddler. She was stung several times by a scorpion. Evidently the scorpion made it's way into her bedroom through a vent in the floor. A doctor had to remove the flesh in the areas of the stings. This was extremely pain, and evidently done without pain relief. My mother kicked the doctor quite vigorously during the



process, and knocked his glasses off. She was left with deep indentations in the areas of the stings (kids in school many years later would ask her if she knew she had holes in her legs). Unable to walk again right away, she had to learn to walk again. She had a tricycle in Nicaragua which she could use to get around, and rebuild her leg strength.

The Forgey family in Nicaragua divided their time between Managua and Granada while my Grandfather Forgey remained in the Marines. When he left the military service they settled in Granada, the hometown of my Grandmother. Grandfather Forgey worked a variety of jobs after leaving the service. He was discharged from the Marines in June 1920. He was discharged with the status Mail Orderly, and very good character. He worked in a gold mine in Chontales, Honduras. My grandmother's wedding ring may have come from this time period. It is a heavy 22k gold ring, with their names inscribed on it. He also worked for the American company Astoria Mahogany Co. in Bluefields, on the east coast of Nicaragua.

My Grandfather Forgey returned to the US alone and established a residence in San Pedro. My grandmother and mother followed in May of 1925. My mother recalls leaving for the ship aboard a donkey, and monkeys rained twigs down on them. The family took very little with them. My Grandmother Forgey did bring some heirloom jewelry, which she later sold during the Great Depression. They traveled aboard the Mail and passenger ship SS Venezuela, which traveled a regular circuit from New York through the Panama Canal stopping in Nicaragua, and the Port of Los Angeles where my family disembarked. This busy port is located in San Pedro, California. My mother recalls a majority of the passengers were American. The cabin steward was Chinese, and very helpful. My mother threw one of her shoes overboard when they boarded the ship. Hopefully, she had another pair? She also recalls the sea was very choppy at one point, and many passengers became seasick. The ship stopped for sightseeing at Mazatlan, Mexico. Passengers were taken off the ship in basket like conveyances.

When Grandmother Forgey, and my Mother Edna, arrived in San Pedro my Grandfather Forgey was waiting at the dock with a friend. My mother remembers his friend asking "do you remember your father". They made their home at this time at 629 E. 29th Street in San Pedro. This community contained a sizable Spanish speaking population. My grandmother was able to integrate well because Southern California is, and was, a very cosmopolitan place. The Forgeys earliest friends were Mexican-American. My grandparents enjoyed socializing with their new friends, and attending Los Angeles area theater performances which included fan dancing performance. Ukuleles were popular in the 1920s. My mother remembers a teenage girl across the street playing one on her front porch, for hours on end. She also remembered Mexican boys practicing their boxing. She recalled hearing horse hooves on the pavement in the morning when the milkman came. During these first years in California my mother learned to speak English from a neighbor.

This neighbor helped my grandmother at one point, when she was frightened by a door to door salesman who forced his way into the house. My grandmother told my mother to go tell this same neighbor, who then came over armed with a knife. She must have been a very brave, and nice lady.



*Friend Dora
Verdugo/Bullock*

My grandparents can be found on a 1926 Voters' list for Los Angeles/ San Pedro. They were the only residents in the area who were registered Socialists. Later they would register as Democrats. My grandmother felt very privileged to be able to vote.

A year after the family reunion my Aunt Grace was born at the family home in San Pedro. Soon after that the family moved inland, to La Crescenta where my grandfather built a house. My grandfather was generally listed as a carpenter before 1940. My Aunt Dorothy was born in that house. My Grandfather Forgey delivered her. She was in a hurry to be born, and didn't wait for the doctor. My mother recalls the La Crescenta area as being very beautiful, with many oak trees all around. Lying in the foothills near the mountains it was a bucolic area. A barbeque/ party was held under a canopy of oak trees near their house to celebrate the baptism of Dorothy and the twins. A beekeeper lived close by, and he helped my grandmother when she got her hand stuck in the wringer of the washing machine. My mother also recalled frequent violent winds which would blow her off her feet. These winds fueled a fire which threatened the family home. The family had to evacuate to a friend's house. The only damage the family suffered was the loss of the garage roof. In 1929 my twin Uncles Charles and Cecil were born. They were not born at home, but instead in a hospital. Both had developed problems health problems early on, which was quite a challenge for my grandmother who now had 4 children under 5. The twins and Dorothy were one year apart. My mother helped hang diapers to dry on the clothes line. Still tiny herself, she had to stand on a box to reach it.

They lost this house to foreclosure, and were forced to rent in the nearby Glendale area. During the depression my mother recalled collecting watercress to eat, when they ran out of food. My mother recalled the family taking a ride through Hooverville in Los Angeles and seeing people even worse off than they were, living in makeshift shacks. My grandfather developed a dislike of the Red Cross when he appealed to them for help, and they wanted him to sign something agreeing to pay back any aid given. The Salvation Army offered help with no strings attached. We still support the Salvation Army when we can.

On a lighter note my Aunt Grace, and a friend sang on the local radio station (very badly I hear, but they tried). They sang on the Glendale Station KIEV, which first began broadcasting in 1931. It was located in the basement of the Hotel Glendale.

The family liked to spend leisure time watching movies at "The Show Shop". Another pastime the family enjoyed were airshows. The family would go to the local airport to watch air shows some weekends.

Charles Lindbergh used the Glendale airport as a departure point for a transcontinental flight (Amelia Earhart was also associated with this airport) . The family also liked to spend time at nearby Griffith Park (Ferndale), and the Observatory. They liked to swim in the pool there, and visit the Zoo. My grandfather's idol Will Rogers played polo in Griffith Park. My mother recalled seeing him play polo with his daughter (my mother remembers "Steamboat Round the Bend" as one of the only movies her father went to with the family). Grandfather Forgey also attended boxing matches at the 1932 Los Angeles Olympic Games at Olympic Auditorium.



My mother greatly enjoyed her years in Glendale Girl Scout Troop 20. Her leader Bunny organized many great outings for her Scout Troop. They hiked up to the Observatory which at that time was brand new. They also marched in the annual Memorial Day parades; which, ended at Forrest Lawn Cemetery where a salute would be fired. She remembered a few very elderly Civil War Veterans were present.

Many neighbors took lessons from the Meglin Kiddies dance studio hoping to get into show business. Many child stars danced with the Meglin Kiddies such as Shirley Temple. The first Meglin Studio was in Glendale. My aunts had tap shoes, but couldn't afford lessons. They did go along with neighbors to watch their lessons at the Meglin Studio. One of Aunt Grace's grammar school peers did land a Hollywood job, as stand-in for Shirley Temple.

The Forgeys were friends of Verdugo descendants. The Verdugos owned large Spanish land grants during the Spanish Colonial and Mexican eras. Dora Verdugo made and sold tamales which my mother loved. My mother would sometimes help her dry dishes. My grandfather was given an old bed that sat outside the Verdugo adobe. He refinished the bed; and it remained in the family until his death.

The Forgeys attended the Catholic Church from time to time, but were not regular members (some of the Forgey children misunderstood the offering basket and began removing money from it until grandma corrected them). My grandparents allowed their children to attend protestant summer vacation bible school with their friends. My grandmother attended a service at Sister Amy Semple McPherson's Angelus Temple in Los Angeles, with a neighbor who was a follower of this flamboyant evangelist. Sister Amy gave a theatrical performance along with her sermons every Sunday.

Even though the Forgeys lived near Hollywood none of their neighbors were movies stars. This isn't completely accurate because they did live next door to Forest Lawn, burial place for many Hollywood stars. Movie Stars could sometimes be spotted visiting the cemetery. When the family lived on Dolores they could see the Cemetery from their house. They often walked to the Cemetery which also contains works of art. The Forgey children would sometimes take flowers from the graves to bring to their mother. Once they overstayed and were locked in after closing. In the ensuing panic some shoes were lost in flower holders as they searched for a way out. Their parents got a hold of a caretaker who let them out.

If the depression wasn't enough, even more devastation was wrought by nature. In 1933 the Long Beach Earthquake shook Glendale, and did substantial damage to some structures. Several schools had to be rebuilt. My mother remembered the quake struck when she was setting the table for dinner. A neighbor came over very shaken up and pale white, she said. In 1934 a flood devastated Glendale and surrounding communities. It occurred a few minutes past midnight on New Year's day. Not a happy way to



ring in the New Year. The losses included scores of houses and 45 killed. My mother recalled people collecting cans of food after the water subsided. A friend of the family found an expensive looking painting poking, "looting?", around after the flood.

The Forgey children caught most of the childhood diseases. My mother just about escaped these diseases; but, with close contact with her younger siblings she got them later. Grace was generally the first to come down with these illnesses. Once when they were playing in their front yard and noticed spots on their skin. My grandmother contacted the Doctor right away not knowing what it was. The fact that her mother had smallpox must have caused her even more concern. Actually, it was only chicken pox. Of course, my mother got it worse because she was older. The Forgey children also got measles. A little girl living in a neighboring apartment building visited the Forgey children when she was not completely recovered from measles, and spread the disease to them. The children had to stay in a dark room, with Halloween shades over the lights.

The Forgey children kept the local health clinic in business with various problems. My Aunt Dorothy stuck a crayon up her nose, and needed medical help to get it out. It was thought that twins, Charles and Cecil, had swallowed some toy blocks, but that was a false alarm. Uncle Cecil was bitten by a dog and may have had to have rabies shots? Uncle Charles was a patient at Children's Hospital in Los Angeles as a very young child; where he had a surgery. My mother remembers dropping him off there, and hearing his screams, upon being left there, all the way to the car.

My grandfather was unemployed a good deal of the time during the depression. In a 1938 Los Angeles City Directory my grandfather is described for the first time as a gardener; an occupation he pursued off and on until his retirement. He interviewed at silent movies star Harold Loyd's estate for a job, but didn't get it. He did work for some very wealthy Los Angeles area families. In those days average middle class families didn't employ gardeners like they do today. He also earned some extra money during the depression taking someone's father on rides to look at tall buildings (the tallest at the time was City Hall in Los Angeles).

Grandfather Forgey did get a break when the government finally agreed to pay WWI bonuses, early. WWI veterans were supposed to be entitled to receive a bonus payable in 1945. These veterans banded together during the depression, and demanded immediate payment. It sounds like my grandfather would have been entitled to collect over \$1000. They were to be paid \$1.00 a day for domestic service, and \$1.25 for foreign service. The average check was actually \$580. That would be the equivalent of \$7000 today (2012).

The family used some of the money to take a vacation. Their favorite local vacation spot was Laguna Beach. My mother remembers the family used to travel through the old Chinatown in Los Angeles during their journey to Laguna. It sounds like they left around 4th of July, because she remembers firecrackers being set off during at least one of their trips through there. My grandfather would fish at San Clemente. Closer to their home they also enjoyed spending free time at Big Tujunga Canyon, where my grandfather painted a picture we still have.

Some the bonus money was likely also spent in the shopping district of Brand Blvd. in Glendale. My grandmother loved shopping at 5 and Dime stores such as Woolworth's. My mother remembers these stores were well stocked with depression glass dinnerware. In general my

Grandfather Forgey was a much more conservative spender than my Grandmother. He believed in "cash on the barrel head." He paid his debts, and paid off the mortgage as soon as possible. However, he refused to pay an electric bill and the family went without for a while. He refused on principle. It was a bill left by previous tenants. The family used kerosine lamps and heated with a wood stove. They also used old irons heated on the stove. The family had other utility problems. A landlady turned off the family's water because she felt like they were using too much. My Grandmother Forgey did use a lot of water due to the fact she had five young children.



In 1939 the family purchased a sizable piece of property, and a house in a rural area of Los Angeles County, in Puente California. Glendale with its central location close to Los Angeles was a more expensive place to live. By the late 30's Glendale had grown into a densely populated suburb of LA. It was quite a culture shock moving to the sleepy rural Puente area. The 1940 US Census captured the family in their new home. According to this Census my Grandfather Forgey was employed with the WPA, and working on a School Construction project in 1940 (he also worked for the WPA in Glendale, identifying trees in that City).



The property my grandparents purchased had only a few years earlier belonged to the San Pedro, Los Angeles and Salt Lake Railroad Corporation. The land was then sold to the Cross Land Company. A house had been moved onto the land from elsewhere. The original purchase size looked to be 1.55 acres? I had heard it was only half an acre?

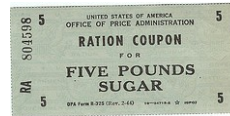
With this good sized piece of property the Forgeys could now raise some of their own food, and be more self sufficient during hard economic times. My grandfather had experience working as gardener, and worked on his family's farm in Indiana. He definitely had a green thumb. I remember the fruit trees bore the most delicious fruit; such as, plums, apricots, pomegranates and mulberries. Much more tasty than you can buy in the supermarket today. My grandmother made a delicious punch from the mulberries. Grandpa Forgey grew garlic once, when the prices were high. Unfortunately, prices dropped when farmers over produced, and my grandfather was stuck with a difficult to sell crop of smelly garlic. My mother recalls local farmers destroying their potato crop. They likely did this due to falling prices, and government regulation of supply. My mother's family was allowed to take some of the potatoes before they were destroyed. Pot roast and potatoes being a favorite with the family, I am sure the potatoes were put to good use.

The family also raised small livestock. They raised chickens and sold the eggs. They also enjoyed raising bantam chickens, and trading them with other bantam collectors. They raised some goats too. One of the goats gave birth to twins, which they named Charles and Cecil. It was Grace's job to milk the goat. Her long nails would sometimes anger the poor goat. My grandfather would use the milk to make delicious cheese. My grandfather gave the goat some beer, and got it drunk one time. I hear the goat went wild, and wouldn't stop bucking.

My mother's job on the little farm was staking out the goat for feeding, and collecting the eggs from the chickens. Her brothers were given the chore of watering the crops. At least once Uncle Cecil watered his brother Charles instead of the crops.

My Grandmother Forgey was a skilled seamstress. Her own mother was a talented seamstress, who often made clothes for my mother when they lived in Nicaragua, and made my grandmother's wedding dress. Grandma Forgey had an old non-electric sewing machine. She made clothing for her children, and made some replacement upholstery for the family car. If she wasn't busy enough she also canned produce from their little farm. All of her hard work

benefited the family during the depression. During the WWII rationing friends would give her extra ration coupons for sugar so she could can.



My grandmother enjoyed getting together with other members of the Nicaraguan community in the Los Angeles area. She was well acquainted with the Lacayo family. Trinidad E. Lacayo was a Nicaraguan Consul to Los Angeles. Francisco Alvarado was also a close associate of my Grandmother. He may have been related to her? The Forgey family referred to him as Padrino (Godfather). He was a Nicaraguan Consul in France. He spent most of his time in Nice, France, while consul. He also had a home in Los Angeles. He brought back a palm tree from Nicaragua for the Forgey family home on 4th avenue. My grandfather wanted a small palm tree; but instead, got one that grew well past that, and reached far into the heavens. He also brought back gifts for the family from his many travels. Padrino also paid for my mother's tonsil surgery.

Family name	Given name	Yrs.	Mos.	Sex	Married	Calling or occupation	Read	Read what language (or if exemption claimed, on what ground)	Write	(Country of which citizen or subject)	† Race or people
ALVARADO	Francisco	55	5	M	S	Nicaragua Consul in France	yes	Italian English	yes	Nicaragua	Spanish American

My grandfather was finally able to secure regular work once WWII started. He got a job working in shipping and receiving at Douglas Aircraft in Long Beach. The Forgey family toured the plant during a family open house. With a steady income he could now add two bedrooms onto their small house; doing most of the construction himself. The Forgey home was not much different than the typical, Southern California house. The typical house built in Southern California before 1930 was a small, one story, Bungalow. These houses generally only had two bedrooms and one bathroom. The Forgey home had only one bathroom, which contained an old fashioned claw footed tub. The Forgey family spent many hours outside. My grandfather added the front porch to the house. He loved to sit out on the front porch and read the paper, or watch the rain. A patio was also added in the backyard. My mother helped lay the bricks for the patio.

During WWII, Air Raid blackouts were a common occurrence in Puente. All home windows had to be covered so that no light would be visible after dark. An Air Raid Warden would then patrol to see that these regulations were followed. Some light did show from a window during one of these exercises, and my grandmother got a reprimand from the Air Raid Warden. A warning or misdemeanor fine and/or jail sentence could be imposed for not complying with blackout laws. The Forgeys were always careful after that incident.



The Forgey's attended the WWII Victory in Europe Celebration at the Coliseum. This celebration honored Generals Doolittle and Patton who also gave speeches. The child actress Margaret O'Brien also spoke. Two million people turned out to the parade which preceded this event.



After the War Grandpa Forgey worked as a Gardener at the El Encanto Nursing Home close to home in Puente. With steady employment, and a permanent residence, the Forgey family was able to relax more, and life then fell into a predictable routine. Shopping trips to Los Angeles became a regular feature of life. A bus line to Los Angeles could be reached from Valley blvd., which was a cross street of 4th avenue. Shopping in Downtown and eating at Clifton's Cafeteria were the main sources of entertainment for my Grandmother Forgey. Sources of

recreation followed the seasons. In the summer the family would sometimes visit places like Catalina Island. In the fall my Grandmother Forgey loved to attend the Los Angeles County Fair in Pomona. New Year's day she would attend the Rose Parade in Pasadena when she could. My grandfather generally didn't join in on these outings, and preferred his own hunting and fishing vacations (often with his Sons-In-Laws). The High Sierras were a favorite camping area for him (he liked to mount animal trophies on his bedroom walls).



Another favorite pastime was shopping at Crawford's market which was the Walmart of the 1940's and 1950's. This market sold a wide variety of merchandise, and offered services such as shoe shining and repair. Regular entertainment added to the fun. Tennessee Ernie Ford was one of many popular performers of the time to perform there. Crawford's became a popular tourist attraction in the area. The Stomp was also a popular place for entertainment in El Monte. My mother saw Johnny Cash perform there. He was all up dressed in his trademark black.

Another tourist attraction was Gay's Lion Farm. Tourists could watch lions perform tricks and stunts, and watch feedings. The lions roared during feedings, and the sound could sometimes be heard as far away as the Forgey home on 4th Avenue. Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer kept the lions that roared at the beginning of their movies there, and some of the lions performed in Tarzan movies. El Monte High School's mascot is a Lion. A lion from Gay's Lion Farm named "Elmo" was sometimes brought to Football games.



El Monte High School was another focal point for the family. Aunt Grace was an active and popular student during her years there. She was very involved with the band, and an assistant to the band director. She played the saxophone. She was also Archery Manager; a sport she enjoyed participating in. She earned her own money to pay for her prom gown. At one point she worked at a candy counter in Los Angeles where she saw Lena Horne. She also worked in the School Office. She gave a baccalaureate speech at graduation. Aunt Grace had taken secretarial courses in school which served her well later. My mother accompanied her to a

typing test, which she passed very handily. Aunt Dorothy's extra curricular activity was taking piano lessons. My mother remembers going to one of her recitals on a very rainy night. Uncle Charles excelled in athletics; playing Football for El Monte High. Uncle Cecil enjoyed track. I hear he was a good runner. He was also a talented graphic artist, and enjoyed designing sets for school plays etc.. Cecil attended both Puente High and El Monte High Schools. My grandfather raised daisies for the traditional La Puente High daisy chain.

The Forgeys had a piano in addition to their radio for entertainment at home. Cecil often played the piano accompanied by the singing of his mother, and the other Forgeys. Grandfather Forgey's favorite song, of course, was the WWI favorite "Over There".

After High School my Aunt Grace worked for E.R. Squibb & Sons pharmaceutical company. During this job stint she got some tickets to see Ginger Roger star in an Academy Award Theater Radio production of Kitty Foyle (Squibb was a sponsor). She brought my mother and grandmother with her to this April 6, 1946 show. They enjoyed seeing how the sound effects were done, and the behind the scenes action. Grace also worked for Laura Scudder. She got to know Mrs. Scudder, and was sometimes chauffeured to work in her limousine.

Some notable friends and neighbors of the Forgey family included Willy Shoemaker, Major League baseball Pitcher Denny Lemaster and Boxer Johnny Sudenberg (he fought Dempsey). Frequent visitors to the house were the milkman, iceman and bread-man (Helms). These services were important to the family since my grandmother didn't drive. The family became well acquainted with many of these regular visitors, and formed friendships with some of them. Other visitors to the house on 4th avenue included some Forgey family members from Indiana and Michigan. Claude, my grandfather's brother, and his wife made at least two trips to Southern California. Cecil, another brother, visited once. When Cecil visited the entire family took a trip with him to Tijuana, Mexico. They all packed into my grandfather's car. My mother had never been there before. She remembered seeing a man lying in the shade of a cactus, like something out of a book. The family did some shopping there, and took a look at the longest bar in the world.

Unwanted visitors could show up to the isolated house. Train tracks ran near the house, and hobos sometimes knocked on their door asking for handouts. My grandparents would provide food to some of them. Someone wanted by the police once took shelter in tall sunflowers which my grandfather grew.

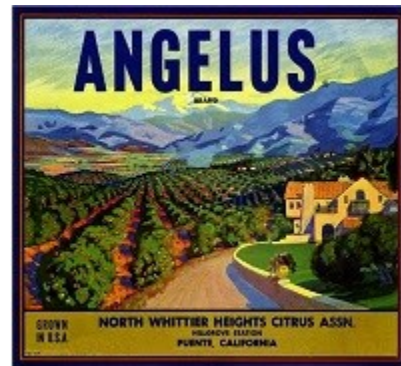
Nearly forgot to mention some other, no less important, family members. That would be the Forgey Family pets. Aunt Grace had a beloved cat named Gilmore who followed the family after the they moved from one rental to another in Glendale. My grandparents decided not to bring the cat to their new home; but, the cat found the house on it's own. They heard a cat crying one day, and were shocked to find it was Gilmore. Grace was born around Easter so someone decided to give her a live rabbit for a present. My aunt named him Peter Pocahontas. My grandfather decided another mouth to feed wasn't what the family needed during those hard times. Growing up on a farm, like he did, he didn't have a problem butchering it. The whole family ate poor Peter except Aunt Grace, who was brokenhearted. A dog named Duke was a long time household



member when the family lived on 4th avenue. He just showed up in the yard mysteriously, one day, wearing a ribbon. Evidently a secret gift from an unknown giver? He loved to chase cars, and was hit by one. He lived, but had back problems for the rest of his life. My Aunt Grace loved horses, but never owned her own. She often rode a neighbor's horse. My grandmother kept a bird named Pete. My grandfather also had a beloved dog named Frank.



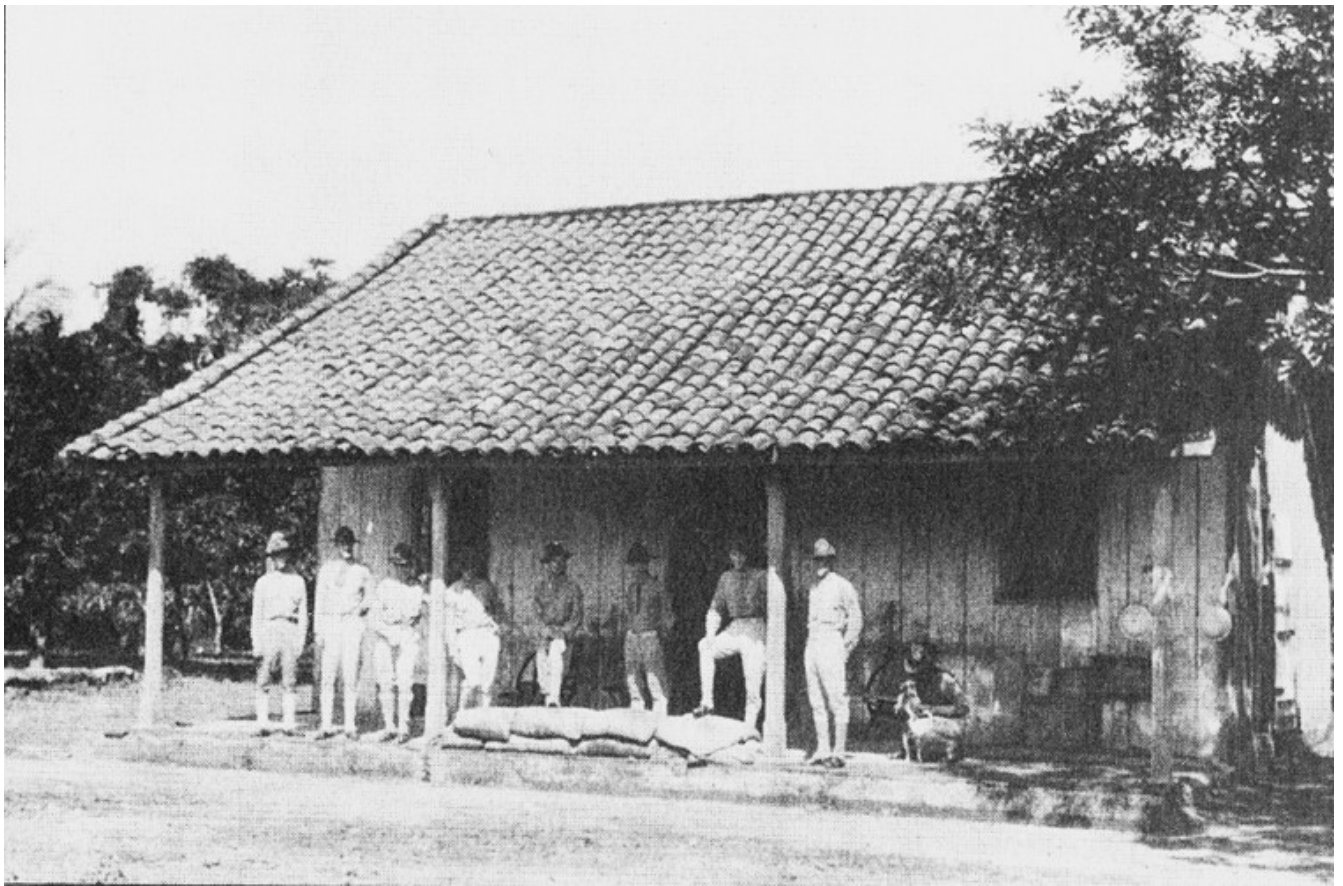
By the 1950's most of the children had left home. Uncle Charles and Uncle Cecil joined the Navy. Aunt Dorothy and Aunt Grace married. My mother Edna remained at home until her marriage in 1962. She worked in the gift wrapping department at Bullocks in Downtown LA. and locally at Betz packing house, packing oranges. The La Puente area in the period before the 1960's was largely covered by groves. Oranges, lemons, and avocados were grown in the area. Smudging was employed to save the orange crops in freezing weather. Smudge pots burned fuel which created soot, this helped keep the crops from freezing. It also created pollution, and covered everything with black soot. The process was a major nuisance to neighbors.



The empty nest on 4th avenue remained occupied by my grandparents for many years after their children left. They welcomed grandchildren, and hosted many celebrations there. The 4th avenue house did stay in the family until its sale in the late 1970's. My grandmother spent the last few years of her life at the El Encanto nursing home, where my grandfather had previously worked. My grandfather died at the 4th avenue house on September 29, 1976.









Panama Mail Steamship Venezuela

Details:

Type: Linen
Size: 3.25" x 5.5" (9 x 14 cm)
Stock #: 89982

Description:

Sister Ships "Ecuador" "Venezuela" "Colombia" 10,000-ton displacement passenger and freight vessels operating on regular schedule between San Francisco, Los Angeles, Mexico, Guatemala, Salvador, Nicaragua, through Panama Canal, Havana (eastward) and New York.

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IMMIGRATION SERVICE

Record on this blank United States citizens and citizens of insular possessions of the United States arriving at a port of continental United States from a foreign port or a port of the insular possessions of the United States, and such citizens arriving at a port of said insular possessions from a foreign port, at a port of continental United States, or a port of another insular possession.

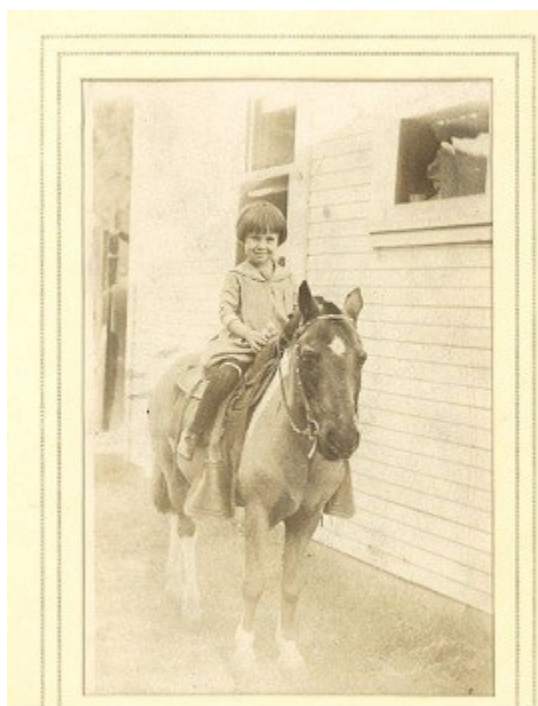
Number **103**

LIST OF UNITED STATES CITIZENS

(FOR THE IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES)

S. S. **"VENEZUELA"** Sailing from **COCHINTO, MICAHACUA ***, MAY 27th., 1926, Arriving at Port of **LOS ANGELES, Calif.**, June 7th., 1926.

No. on List	NAME IN FULL		AGE	Sex	Married on Board	IF NATIVE OF UNITED STATES INSULAR POSSESSION OR IF NATIVE OF UNITED STATES, GIVE DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH (CITY OR TOWN AND STATE).	IF NATURALIZED, GIVE NAME AND LOCATION OF COURT WHICH ISSUED NATURALIZATION PAPERS, AND DATE OF PAPERS.	ADDRESS IN UNITED STATES.	
	FAMILY NAME	GIVEN NAME							
1	Ladd	Emley	✓	22	M	M	Sept. 24, 1892	Malrosehighlands, Mass.	Marine Corps Base, San Diego, Cal.
2	Ladd	Bernette	✓	22	F	M	Feb. 17, 1895	Sherwood, Texas.	do
3	Ladd	Beverly	✓	2	F	S	Aug. 22, 1922	Quantico, Va.	do
4	Ladd	Louise	✓	4	F	S	July 16, 1920	U S Naval Sta., Cuba	do
5	Forgey	Graciela	✓	23	F	M	Sept. 10, 1891	Granada, Nic.	U S Citizen by marriage to husband 7 years ago, husband, St. L.
6	Forgey	Edna	✓	4	F	S	Apr. 22, 1921	Granada, Nic.	Los Angeles, Calif.
7									Married do.









U S I R S \$1.65 Cancelled

Joint Tenancy Deed

In consideration of \$10.00, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, WILLIAM E. POLSON and MAYME M. POLSON, husband and wife, do hereby Grant to CHARLES L. FORGEY and GRACIELA L. FORGEY, husband and wife, as Joint Tenants, all that real property in the County of Los Angeles, State of California, described as:

The Northwesternly 132 feet of Lot 5 in Block 7 of Tract No. 1343, as per map recorded in Book 20, Pages 10 and 11 of Maps, in the office of the County Recorder of said County. Except the Southwesternly 150 feet thereof.

Subject to General and Special taxes for the fiscal year 1939-40.

Subject to covenants, conditions, restrictions, reservations, rights, rights of way and easements of record. Dated this 11th day of May, 1942.

William E. Polson
Mayme M. Polson



Grace Forgey
 Jim Fortune
 Elaine Forbes
 Joanne Fry



ARCHERY



LIONS' BAND



Elinor Fisk
Sam Ford
Dorothy Forgey
Viola Forshee



JUNIOR TRI-Y

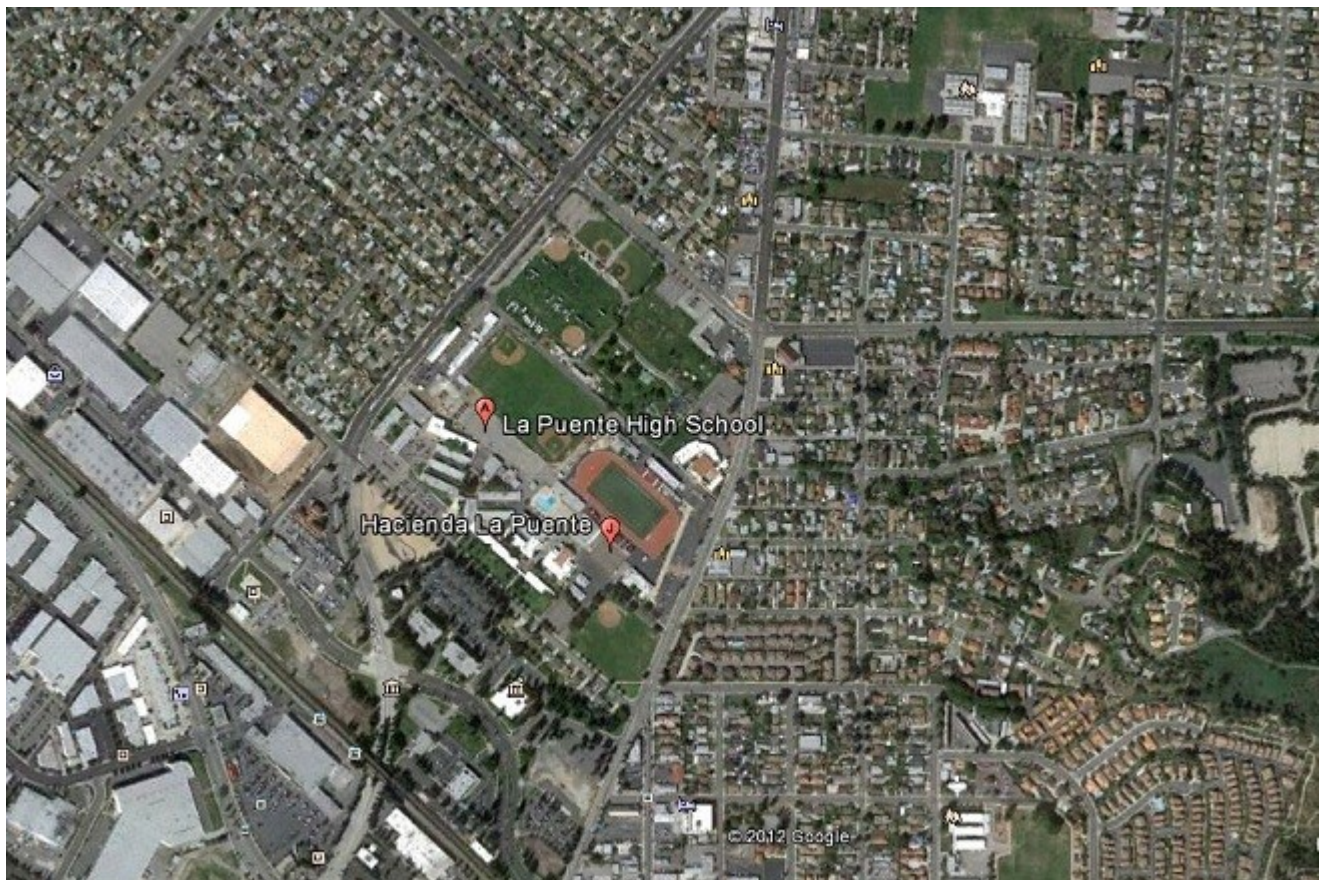
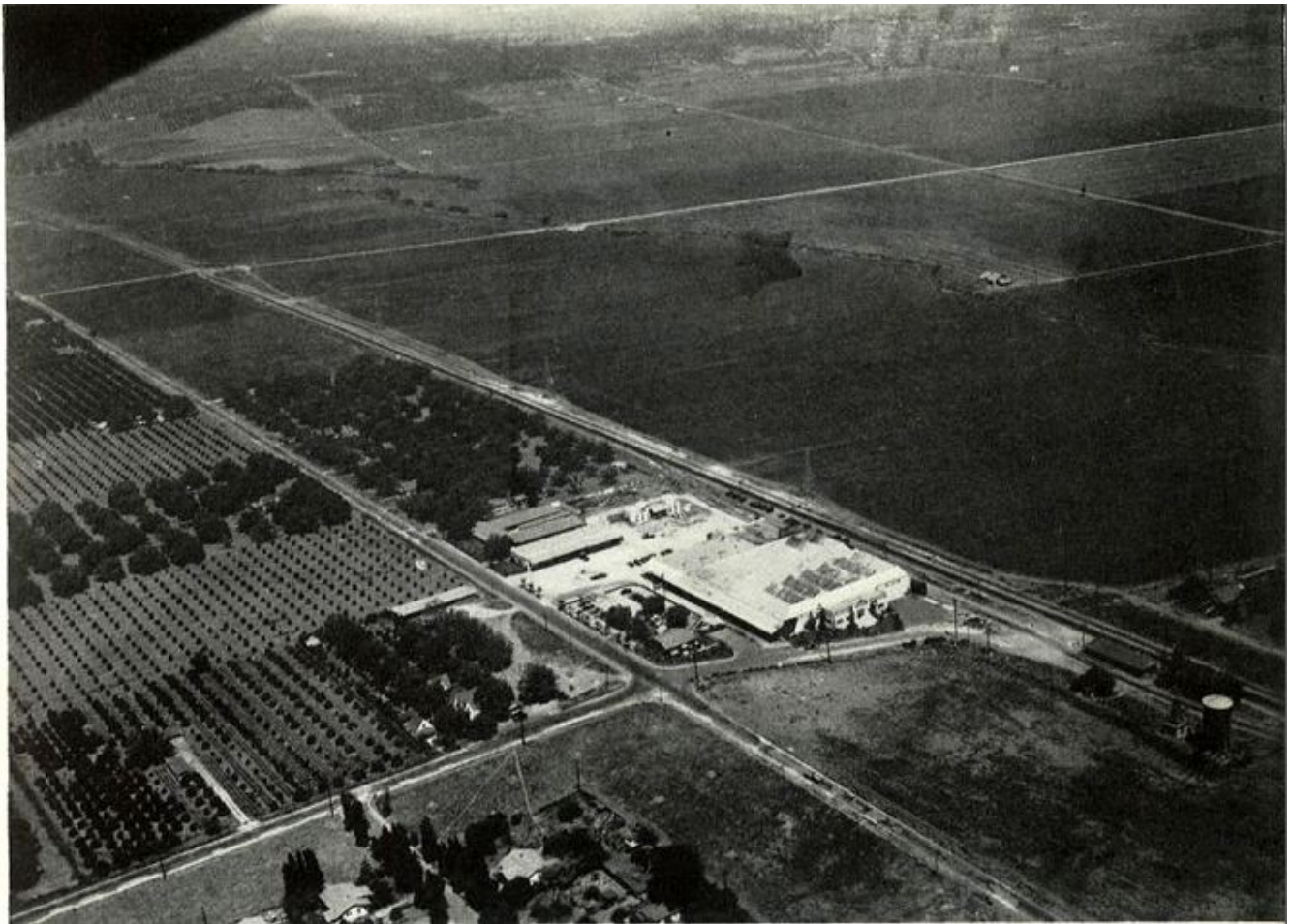


FRONT ROW: M. Aguilar, D. Richards, G. DeGarmo, J. Hillloth, C. Ready
SECOND ROW: K. Monson, L. Weld, J. Richards, M. Henkle, C. Cox, A. Ellis, B. Henkle, M. Hoagland, C. Yarbrough
BACK ROW: Miss Calross, D. Roberts, I. Helgeson, A. Koch, D. Forgey, R. Miller, V. Thompson, M. Thane, F. Neaderhiser,
L. Paul, B. Rye

Aunt Dorothy smallest one in back row



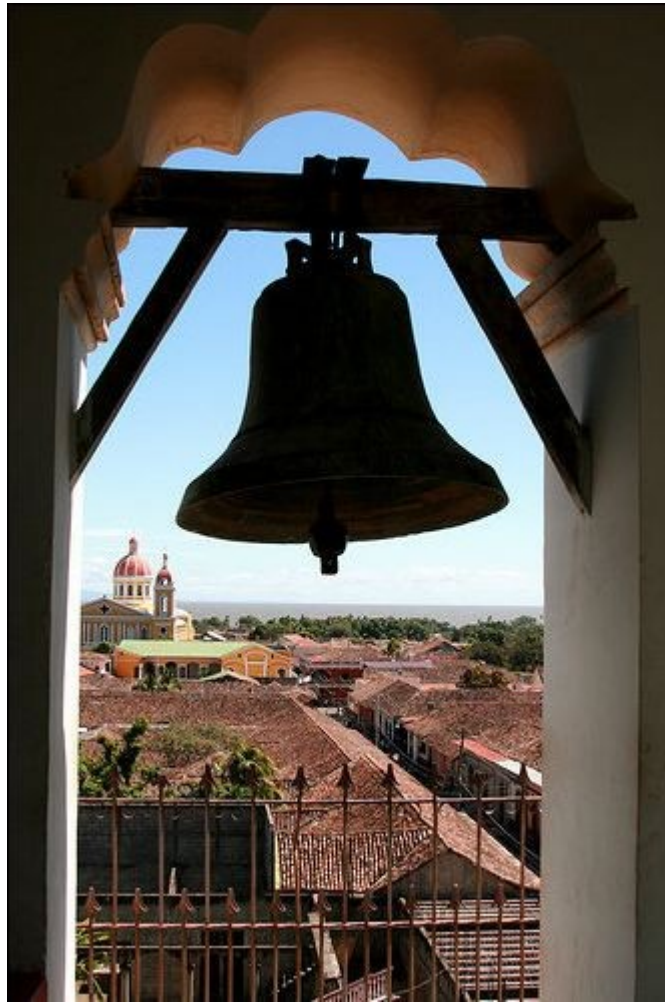
Cecil Forgey Track Team Puente High School





Packing House picture, my mother is the last packer in the back





View from Nuestra Mercedes Granada, Nicaragua

Forgey Grandparents & Great Grandparents

Charles Forgey

B 17 Dec 1898

P Brownstown, Jackson County, Indiana

M 10 January 1919

P Managua, Nicaragua

D 29 Sep 1976

P La Puente, Los Angeles County, California

Graciela Lucrecia Del Castillo

B 10 Sep 1893

P Granada, Nicaragua

D 28 Jun 1977

P La Puente, Los Angeles Co., CA

William Wray Forgey

B 18 May 1862

P Jackson County, Indiana

M 22 June 1890

P Jackson County, Indiana

D 20 Dec 1933

P Jackson County, Indiana

Isis Minerva Browning

B 27 Nov 1869

P Jackson County, Indiana

D 7 Feb 1908

P Jackson County, Indiana

Hugh Forgey

B 28 Mar 1817

P Scott County, Virginia

M 7 Feb 1851

P Jackson County, Indiana

D 28 Nov 1882

P Silones Springs, Arkansas

Elizabeth Jane Wray

B 20 Sep 1833

P Jackson County, Indiana

D 19 Apr 1895

P Jackson County, Indiana

Andrew Forgey

B 10 Dec 1794

P Knox County, Tennessee

M 15 Oct 1816

P Scott County, Virginia

D 8 Apr 1879

P Scott County, Iowa

Anna Roller

B 12 Feb 1797

P Shenandoah Co., Virginia

D 24 Mar 1841

P Jackson County, Indiana

Hugh Forgey

B abt. 1766

P Ireland

D Between 1810 & 1814

P Tennessee

Catherine Fisher

B abt. 1766

P Scotland?

D after 1814

Andrew Forgey

B 4 Feb 1732

P Ireland

D 3 Aug 1809

P Hawkins County, Tennessee

Margaret Reynolds

B 25 Dec 1741

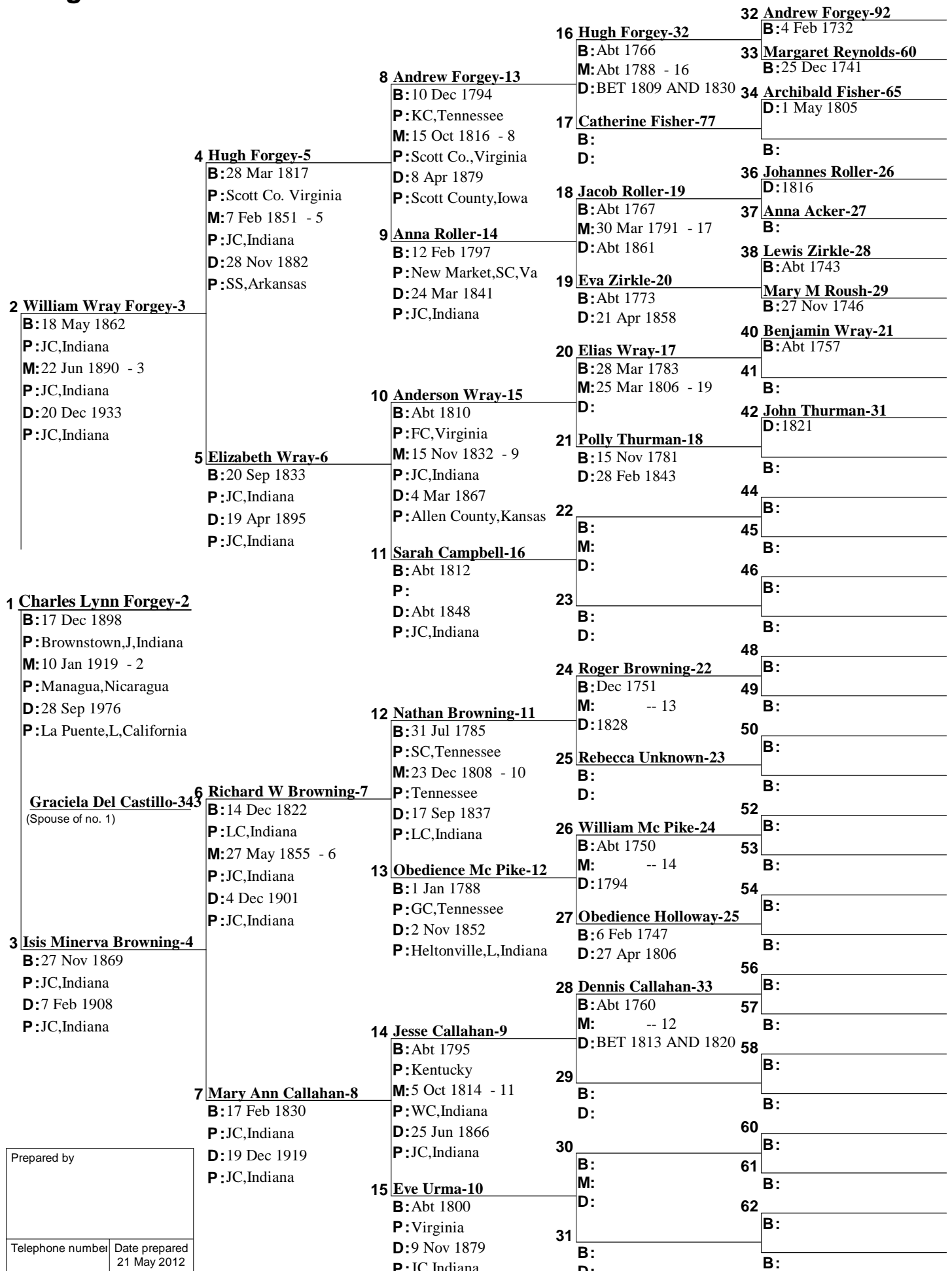
P Ireland

D 1 Jun 1828

P Hawkins County, Tennessee

Pedigree Chart

Chart no. 1



Prepared by

Telephone number Date prepared
21 May 2012